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RE:

US Patent Application No. 10/803,120

COMMENTS:

Please see attached for discussion purposes regarding interview

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Potential Claim Amendments in Appl'n. Serial No. 11/803,120

Claim 31, Alternative A

31. A method comprising:

associating with an electronic message authorized by an originator identification data uniquely identifying said electronic message, the identification data distinguishing said electronic message from other electronic messages authorized by the originator;

storing said identification data;

sending to an intended recipient said electronic message with said identification data;

receiving on behalf of the intended recipient a confirmation request including said identification data and requesting confirmation that said electronic message was authorized by the originator;

comparing said identification data received in said confirmation request to said stored identification data;

and

upon determining that said identification data received in said confirmation request matches said stored identification data, responding to said confirmation request, affirming said electronic message was authorized by the originator.

Claim 31, Alternative B

31. A method comprising:

associating with an electronic message authorized by an originator identification data uniquely identifying said electronic message from other electronic messages authorized by the originator;

storing said identification data;

sending to an intended recipient said electronic message with said identification data;

receiving on behalf of the intended recipient a confirmation request including said identification data and requesting confirmation that said electronic message was authorized by the originator;

comparing said identification data received in said confirmation request to said stored identification data;

and

upon determining that said identification data received in said confirmation request matches said stored identification data, responding to said confirmation request, affirming said electronic message was authorized by the originator.

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Potential Claim Amendments in Appl'n. Serial No. 11/803,120

Claim 76, Alternative A

76. A method comprising:

receiving from a sending device a first electronic message authorized by an originator, said first electronic message containing information identifying the originator;

sending to a confirmation device a first confirmation request requesting confirmation that said first electronic message was authorized by the originator;

receiving a response to said first confirmation request affirming said first electronic message was authorized by the originator;

allowing said first electronic message to be further processed according to rules for processing of confirmed electronic messages directed to the intended recipient;

receiving from the sending device a second electronic message different from said first electronic message authorized by the originator, said second electronic message containing information identifying the originator; and

sending to the confirmation device a second confirmation request requesting confirmation that said second electronic message was authorized by the originator.

Claim 76, Alternative B

76. A method comprising:

receiving from a sending device a first electronic message authorized by an originator, said first electronic message containing information identifying the originator;

sending to a confirmation device a first confirmation request requesting confirmation that said first electronic message was authorized by the originator;

receiving a response to said first confirmation request affirming said first electronic message was authorized by the originator;

allowing said first electronic message to be further processed according to rules for processing of confirmed electronic messages directed to the intended recipient;

receiving from the sending device a second electronic message authorized by the originator, said second electronic message containing information identifying the originator; and

sending, independent of the response to said first confirmation request, to the confirmation device a second confirmation request requesting confirmation that said second electronic message was authorized by the originator.